

Background

he Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, is the central contracting agency for procurement and delivery of unaccompanied personnel housing (UPH) furniture and furnishings for Army installations worldwide. The central manager of the funding for the furnishings program is the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management (OACSIM).

The mission for managing UPH replacement furnishings was added by the Installation Management Agency (IMA) in 2005. The mission is being expanded to include the centralized management of Army administrative furniture, fixtures and equipment (FF&E). The new mission is in the planning stage and may be fully launched by fiscal year 2007.

Purpose

The Furnishings Program mission is to buy initial issue furniture and furnishings in accordance with annual work plans and to manage the delivery of those items to the new / renovated facility by the beneficial occupancy date (BOD). The program also provides for replacement furnishings to meet the installations' requirements.

Services provided by Huntsville Center include assisting the ACSIM and IMA in annual budgeting and work plan formulation; preparing and executing the acquisition plan for worldwide procurement of furniture and furnishings (F&F); developing and maintaining current minimum quality specifications for the FF&E; evaluating and awarding supply and services contracts to vendors offering the best value to the government; managing the delivery of the FF&E to coincide with the often

dynamic BOD; measuring and evaluating program efficiency and cost effectiveness; serving as the clearing house for end user comments and lessons learned; and recommending or implementing improvements to program management and acquisition strategies.

More than 200 requisitions are processed each fiscal year by Huntsville Center under this program with an in-house cost, including technical and program management services, averaging less than 5 percent of the total contract obligation amount.

Vendors that supply barracks furniture must comply with General Service Administration industry standard specifications that incorporate the durability Soldiers require. Requests for quotes are directed to those vendors having complying lines of furniture, ensuring only comparable furniture in terms of quality of materials, special features and overall dimensions (critical for facility standard design application) are being considered for best value award.

The Furnishings Manual for Single Soldier Housing includes programmatic guidance for MCA (Military Construction, Army) barracks and BUP (Barracks Upgrade Program) furnishing acquisition. Army installations throughout the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Germany, Italy and Korea have had barracks furnishings centrally procured by the Huntsville Center.

Funding/Obligations	Soldier Spaces Furnished
FY98-\$26M	FY98 — 10,657
FY99-\$42M	FY99 — 12,787
FY00-\$39M	FY00 — 12,687
FY01-\$38M	FY01 — 12,502
FY02-\$24M	FY02 — 8,429
FY03-\$37M	FY03 — 9,905
FY04-\$35M	FY04 — 9,277
FY05 - \$27M	FY05 — 17,079